



LINCOLN CHAFEE

U.S. SENATOR

RHODE ISLAND

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Friday, March 17, 2006

CONTACT: Debbie Rich
401 453-5071 or 741-3130

CHAFEE ANNOUNCES HIS RECOMMENDATION FOR US COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FIRST CIRCUIT

PROVIDENCE, RI – U.S. Senator Lincoln Chafee today announced that he will recommend to the President that he nominate former Rhode Island Supreme Court Justice Robert G. Flanders to a seat on the First Circuit Court of Appeals. If confirmed by the full Senate, he would succeed Justice Bruce Selya who recently announced that he would be assuming senior status.

“Justice Flanders is a man of superb intellect, who understands the complexities of the law,” said Senator Chafee. “His integrity is unquestioned, and I have great respect for his professional experience.”

A graduate of Brown University and Harvard Law School, Robert Flanders was nominated by Governor Almond in 1996 to serve as an Associate Justice of the state Supreme Court. He served for eight years and was well-known as the court’s most frequent dissenter. He has worked for the Rhode Island law firms of Edwards & Angell and Hinckley Allen & Snyder. A devoted father and husband, Flanders was elected as a Republican to the Barrington Town Council in the 1980s and now chairs the Rhode Island Voter Initiative campaign.

“It is something of a rare opportunity”, noted Chafee, “only 29 individuals have served on the 1st Circuit Appeals Court since 1891, when the appellate system was established. I have every confidence that Justice Flanders will continue his stellar career of public service to the people of Rhode Island and our nation as a member of the 1st Circuit Court of Appeals.”